

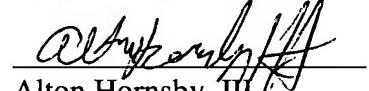
Remarks

As a result of this amendment, Claims 1-11 have been canceled. Claims 12-17 represent the unelected claims (Group II) which were restricted in a Restriction Requirement mailed on December 17, 2002 in related U.S. application No. 09/602,284 (Paper No. 2).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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